

Serial No. - 10/034,852
Art Unit - 1775

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Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1-2. (canceled)

3-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A coated machine tool comprising a multilayer wear resistant coating applied to a base material of said machine tool, said coating comprising a relatively hard underlayer and a chemically inert metal rare earth oxide overlayer, wherein:

 said relatively hard underlayer is formed over said base material of said machine tool and comprises at least two layers;

 one of said layers of said underlayer comprises a metal and is formed over said base material;

 another of said layers of said underlayer comprises a metal nitride, metal carbide, or metal carbo-nitride and is formed over said metal layer;

 said metal oxide overlayer is formed of a metal oxide over said underlayer; and

 said metal oxide overlayer is substantially chemically inert with respect to comprises a rare earth oxide overlayer that exhibits positive free energies of reaction with titanium.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A coated machine tool as claimed in claim 19 wherein said metal rare earth oxide comprises an oxide of scandium

22. (currently amended) A coated machine tool as claimed in claim 19 wherein said metal rare earth oxide comprises an oxide of lanthanum.